

Serial No.: 09/541,387  
Examiner: Melanie Jagannathan

**In the claims:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1- 4 (canceled)

5. (currently amended) A system for distributing a timing signal, the system comprising: The system of Claim 1, wherein:

a timing generator operable to insert a phase of a timing signal and a command signal into a framed signal;

a distribution module operable to receive the framed signal from the timing generator;

a bus control module operable to receive the framed signal from the distribution module and to distribute the framed signal to a telecommunication system, the bus control module further being is operable to receive a first plurality of signals from the telecommunication system and to select a first derived clock signal from the first plurality of signals;

the distribution module is being operable to receive the first derived clock signal from the bus control module and a second plurality of signals from the telecommunication system, and to select a second derived clock signal from the first derived clock signal and the second plurality of signals; and

the timing generator is being operable to receive the second derived clock signal from the distribution module and to select the second derived clock signal as the new timing signal.

6. (original) The system of Claim 5, wherein:

the bus control module is operable to select the first derived clock signal in response to the framed signal; and

the distribution module is operable to select the second derived clock signal in response to the framed signal.

7 - 20 (canceled)

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21. (currently amended) A method for distributing a timing signal in a telecommunication system, the method comprising: The method of Claim 15, further comprising:

inserting a phase of a timing signal and a command signal into a framed signal using a timing generator;

transmitting the framed signal to a distribution module;

transmitting the framed signal to a bus control module;

distributing the framed signal to a telecommunication system using the bus control module;

transmitting a first plurality of signals from the telecommunication system to the bus control module;

selecting a first derived clock signal from the first plurality of signals;

transmitting the first derived clock signal and a second plurality of signals to the distribution module;

selecting a second derived clock signal from the first derived clock signal and the second plurality of signals;

transmitting the second derived clock signal to the timing generator; and

selecting the second derived clock signal as a new timing signal using the timing generator.

22. (currently amended) The method of Claim 21, further comprising

selecting a the first derived clock signal from the first plurality of signals in response to the framed signal; and

selecting a the second derived clock signal from the first derived clock signal and the second plurality of signals in response to the framed signal.

23 - 24 (canceled)

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